

## Message Text

SECRET

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64

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

EUR-25 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 EB-11 FEA-02 SCI-06

IO-14 DRC-01 /166 W

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R 081610Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2697

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

USMISSION NATO

SECDEF

S E C R E T ATHENS 1436

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU

SUBJ: GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS

1. I TOLD VLACHOS MAR 8 AT LUNCH I WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED WITH THE HARD LINE BEING TAKEN BY THE GREEK MILITARY TOWARDS TURKEY. HE CONFESSED THEY ARE IN FACT TAKING A VERY HARD LINE, PARTICULARLY ON THE OIL EXPLORATION ISSUE. HE SAID THAT HE HAS HAD TO REMIND THEM THAT TURKEY COULD OCCUPY A SERIES OF GREEK ISLES QUICKLY AND EASILY AND THEN USE THEM TO EXTORT CONCESSIONS. HE REMINDED THEM THAT GREEK HISTORY SHOWED GREECE HELPLESS WITHOUT FOREIGN FRIENDS--CITING THE BATTLE OF NAVARINO, 1863, 1912, 1922 AND 1967.

2. I INTERJECTED THAT THE US ATTACHED THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO GOG-GOT FRIENDSHIP AND THAT GREEK MILITARY SHOULD REALIZE THAT THE US WOULD TAKE A DIM VIEW OF GREEK EFFORTS TO APPLY MILITARY PRESSURE AGAINST TURKEY BECAUSE IT WOULD THREATEN VITAL NATO SECURITY INTERESTS IN THIS AREA. VLACHOS AGREED, ADDING THAT HE HAS

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BEEN PUSHING HARD THE POINT OF VIEW THAT DIFFERENCES

BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE  
ICJ. THE PRESENT STATE OF PLAY IS THAT GOG SUBMITTED  
MEMO TO GOT WHICH HAS REPLIED IN A NOTE WHICH IS UNDER  
STUDY.

3. VLACHOS SAID IT VITAL TURKEY AND GREECE LEARN TO  
LIVE TOGETHER PEACEFULLY AND FORGET THE PAST. IN FACT  
THE TWO PEOPLES LIKED EACH OTHER INDIVIDUALLY AND  
UNDERSTOOD EACH OTHER AFTER MANY CENTURIES OF COHABITATION.  
PROBLEM WAS OFFICERS CAME FROM THE VILLAGES, HAD LITTLE  
POLITICAL BACKGROUND AND UNAWARE OF GREECE'S TRUE STRENGTH.  
HOWEVER, HE CONTINUES HOPEFUL THAT ONCE MILITARY HAS LET  
OFF STEAM A REASONABLE POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE TURKS ON  
THIS ISSUE CAN BE WORKED OUT.  
TASCA

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Image Path:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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